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12/6/16

Dear Chairman Chatfield and members of the House Local Government Committee,

We join members of our sister branch of government in law enforcement and other members of the executive branch at our local levels in voicing our concern for moving forward with healthcare reform as we approach *sine die*. We respectfully ask that this issue be reserved for the next legislative session.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, the healthcare insurance for judges around this state is not uniform. Some of our members are not even provided healthcare by their local units of government. Our concern is the potential unintended consequences of legislation without an opportunity to fully survey our membership.

Mr. Chairman, the MDJA takes great pride in our responsibility to comment on legislation to our sister branch of government. This is a commitment we take seriously and work hard at it. The MDJA meets monthly and have in place a mechanism to consider legislation and policy quickly. However, there is no way for us to meet and intelligently comment on the sweeping reforms before us now.

We humbly request that this legislation not be acted on this legislative session. We hope to be able to work with you on this important topic in the next legislative session.

Sincerely,

Hon. Thomas Boyd President, MDJA